

In the Claims:

- 1-8. (cancelled).
9. (new). A method of treating or preventing allergic rhinitis comprising administering to a subject a histacalin protein in a therapeutically effective dosage.
10. (new). A method according to claim 9, wherein said histacalin protein is from a blood feeding ectoparasite.
11. (new). A method according to claim 10, wherein said histacalin protein is from a tick.
12. (new). A method according to claim 9, wherein said histacalin protein is the MS-HBP1, FS-HBP1, FS-HBP2 or D.RET6 protein, a functional equivalent thereof or an active fragment thereof.
13. (new). A method according to claim 9, wherein the subject is administered a medicament comprising said histacalin protein and a pharmaceutically acceptable excipient.
14. (new). A method according to claim 9 wherein said allergic rhinitis is seasonal or perennial allergic rhinitis.

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